

**STATE YOUTH COUNCIL ON WORKFORCE SERVICES
JULY 15, 2004**

Members Present: Jan Zogmaister, Chair, State Youth Council, and Owner, National Battery Sales
Wayne Griffin, Dept of Child & Family Services
Herman Hooten, Dept of Child & Family Services
Jim Jensen, Boys/Girls Club of SLC
Marv Johnson, Utah State Office of Education
Gary Oliver, Utah Power & Light
Rich Parks, Youth Force & Americorps
Lynette Robinson, Six County AOG
Regan Wilson, Job Corps

Excused: Rickie Bryan, AFL/CIO
Paul Jackson, IHC
Paul Otto, Weber Basin Job Corps

DWS Staff: Rebecca Banner, Central Region
Jane Broadhead, Administration
Bob Gilbert, Eastern Region
Kelly Thornton, Eastern Region
Susan Hill, North Region
Diane Lovell, Central Region
Lorna O'Berto – Eastern Region

Guests: Bob Haywood, DHS

WELCOME, APPROVAL OF SYC METING MINUTES 04/22/2004

Jan Zogmaister welcomed the attendees. Regan Wilson, an admissions counselor at Job Corps, was welcomed as the new chair for the Western Regional Youth Council. She gave an overview of Job Corps, her job duties and invited members to tour the center.

The April 22, 2004 minutes were approved as submitted.

WIA YOUTH CONTRACT EXTENSIONS

Jane Broadhead

Jane disseminated the WIA Youth Contract Action Summary. There are six contracts in the regions.

She gave an overview on how we arrive at approval for extension. On an annual basis, contracts are monitored for program and fiscal requirements. Twenty percent or 25 files are reviewed for fiscal, ADA and general elements of compliance. If, following the preliminary review, the error rate is over 12%, a follow-up review is done to assure that the files were fixed. (An error rate of 12% in program compliance is acceptable.) In the event that contractor compliance has not been met, the decision can be made to terminate.

While we haven't arrived at the point to terminate any contracts, we will not be renewing a contract in the Eastern Region.

Jane noted that Congress hasn't passed WIA reauthorization. A SYC group was formed and created a RFP boilerplate for services after reauthorization. It has been modified to reflect current law, and will be used in the Eastern and North Regions to announce solicitation now. Utah Code allows contracts to be drafted for a one-year period, with the possibility of four additional extensions. Following the final extension period, an RFP is required. Jane added that DOL reviewed youth services in Central Region and North Regions and were pleased with both areas.

Jan called for a motion to approve the monitoring recommendations and contract actions by region as follows:

Central Region

Motion: The motion made by Lynette Robinson, second by Mark Johnson to approve the WIA Youth Contract Action Summary for the Central Region Salt Lake County – Youth Employability Services through September 2005. Motion passed. Abstained: Jim Jensen.

Eastern Region

Jane noted that the original RFP elicited few responses. Pinnacle Canyon Academy was awarded the contract for Carbon and Emery Counties; DWS delivers the youth services for the remainder of the region. If there are no qualified providers, the responsibility reverts to DWS, the grant recipient. DWS can deliver framework services if it chooses. The 10 elements of service need to be contracted out.

Based on the results of contract monitoring conducted in March and April 2004, Judy Chambley, Eastern Regional Director, presented her decision to the Southeastern Regional Council that the Pinnacle Canyon Academy contract not be extended beyond the current expiration date of June 30, 2004. The preliminary error rate was 30% and the final overall error rate 22.59%; 12% is the acceptable final overall error rate. There were eligibility errors that set up the possibility of disallowed costs. Of the 33 elements reviewed, 6-8 relate to eligibility. It is hoped to have the Eastern Region providers selected by September.

Motion: Jan called for a motion to approve the recommendation to not extend the Pinnacle Canyon Academy contract. Motion made by Herman Hooten, second by Rich Parks. Motion passed.

Western Region.

Provider Winfield Kids was monitored a year ago. The contract period ends September 2005. Extension approval was recommended by both the Western Regional Youth Council and the Western Regional Council.

Motion: Jan called for a motion to approve the recommendation to extend the Winfield Kids contract. Motion made by Marv Johnson, second by Linette Robinson. Motion passed.

Mountainland & North Regions. As the current contract periods end in September, discussion will be postponed until October when monitoring reports are completed.

REGIONAL SERVICE PRIORITY SYSTEMS

Jan noted that, due to the Transition to Adult Living initiative, one of Governor Walker's Work Plans, Regional Youth Councils around the State have been asked to review service priority systems and perhaps increase the point value for foster care and corrections youth. It is the responsibility of regional youth councils to ensure service to those most in need. The service priority system established the youth who are most in need of WIA services, and helps providers direct services, and the limited funds, to them. Each region recently looked at its priority system and increased point values for youth in foster care and those coming out of youth corrections.

Jane noted that the out of school youth expenditure is currently at 30%; reauthorization may increase the number to 50% or 70%. Regions have been encouraged to move toward that target by increasing services to out of school youth. Transition To Adult Living youth may be more mobile than the "regular" population, and they move among regions. If a customer is served in one region and moves to another region, the receiving region is required to accept the customer as an open case. The case transfer issue is being addressed. Language has been added to the Customer Training Policy, and procedures are being developed to instruct staff.

In closing, Jan asked regions to review their priority systems, if they haven't done so recently. Youth Councils need to know their region's needs, as barriers can be specific to regions.

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING AND MEDICAID

This discussion was brought about by a recent Medicaid decision that community mental health providers can only provide services to Medicaid eligible customers. The impact and status of this decision are not fully known, however, it may affect some of our youth. Jane noted that one element of youth services is Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling. About 50 youth across the State are in that category; it's unknown how many receive substance abuse or mental health assistance. Lynnette said in the Western Region, as of August 1, only substance abuse clients (which is funded separately) and Medicaid clients can be served. Jane thought that, in the future we might have to budget for mental health services rather than relying on community mental health providers as partners. Herman suggested collaborating with a youth program called Reconnect. Jane will get more information on Reconnect for the October meeting. Jan asked DWS to look at options to provide the services by region. We need to know approximately how many youth in each region need the service, and how each region will be impacted if they have to purchase counseling services instead of providing them by partnership with community mental health. The service must be available in order to remain in

compliance. Bob Haywood, DHS offered to get more information and report back at the October meeting.

Action: Bob Haywood and Jane Broadhead will work on getting this information.

TRANSITION TO ADULT LIVING

Herman Hooten gave an overview of the program's history. Utah was sued in 1994 over its foster care system. At that point, transitional living became a priority of the Governor and was backed by increased funding. Last summer, a Summit for youth in foster care was held. The goal was to find out from them what assistance they need to become successful adults. A second summit was held with agencies and community based organizations serving youth. The goal was to inform people of what youth articulated, and to encourage coordination. On November 17, 2003, Governor Olene Walker announced that Transition to Adult Living—TAL is a major initiative of her administration. This initiative is aimed at helping youth in foster care, youth aging out of foster care and court involved youth, become better prepared to prosper as adults. Utah applied for, and received assistance from the National Governors Association—NGA Policy Academy. Through this, and state and local task groups, great community collaborations are being developed to serve the youth targeted by this initiative. Through these partnerships, including DWS and other providers, the foster care system is working better. We are also in the process of creating coordinated processes for delivering post secondary funding to these youth.

The necessity of this program is reflected in statistics over the past five years of 774 youth exiting care at age 18, which show that 35% were arrested for a felony in the 5-year period following release; 58% are on public assistance; the child bearing rate is 27.9 times higher than their peers; the death rate is 17 times higher and the accident rate is 4 times higher. About 19% of females and 5% of males received child support. Females are earning at 59% of poverty and males, 99%. The goal is to give each youth the tools to function successfully. Success depends on having the education background and structure to survive. Eight subcomponents have been developed to help them live and operate successfully when released from custody. The program has collaborated with DWS and WIA youth providers and is developing plans to put training and employment in place. Five goals form this vision: affordable housing, employment, training, education, and healthcare. Bob noted that the program is enthusiastically supported by Human Services. He also welcomed the Youth Council newsletter and suggested that the independent living coordinators receive it. The coordinators should also be active on the regional councils.

WAIVER REQUEST

Jane Broadhead said that in conjunction with the TAL initiative, Utah is submitting a Waiver Request to the Department of Labor. The intent is to eliminate some of the policy barriers affecting WIA service delivery to TAL target youth. We hope to extend the definition of "low-income individual" to include youth aging out of the foster care system. We are also asking that foster care and court involved youth be considered out-of-school youth, regardless of their actual school status. A copy was handed out and

there was an announcement that the Waiver Request is also on the DWS website. The public comment period is through August 13th.

WIA YOUTH BUDGET DATA

Jane Broadhead noted that the program ended June 30th, at which time the DOL expenditure requirement of 70% has been met. Statewide the expenditure requirement has been met at 74%. Additionally, at least 30% has to be spent on out of school youth. Each region has increased that expenditure to a total of 50.54%. Regions were congratulated for their good work/

The reporting dates have been changed and the WIA annual report is due in October this year instead of December.

WIA PERFORMANCE DATA

Jane Broadhead disseminated the summary of negotiated WIA youth levels of performance for PY04 for Utah. The outcome targets for WIA youth have been increased considerably. The increase in outcome requirements is a result of our success; however, the new targets will require that Councils pay close attention to outcomes and work with providers to create strategies for success.

REGIONAL PERFORMANCE OUTCOME REPORT

Jan Zogmaister showed a monthly report compiled by the local provider for the Wasatch North Regional Youth Council. It shows the budget, contract requirements, participants, service categories, participant ages, and county breakdown. This format could be useful for other regions.

JUST FOR YOUTH WEB PAGE EVALUATION

Jane Broadhead disseminated a copy of the evaluation. The next step will be enhancements with the transition to adult living program.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim complimented Jan and Jane for their work.

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